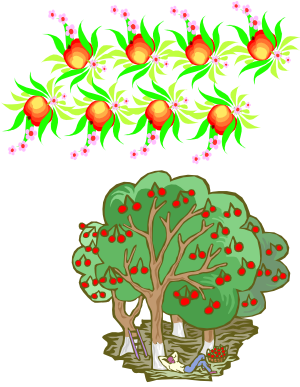




# Primary Press



Fall signals an abundance of apples and many preschools start the school year with an apple theme. You can turn a simple preschool craft into a literacy lesson by teaching students a classic poem first.

## Poem

Way up high in an apple tree.

Two red apples smiled at me.

I shook the tree as hard as I could.

Down came some apples!

Mmmmmm they were good!



Copy the poem onto sentence strips or large chart paper. Read the poem to

## Fun With Apples

the class several times inviting the children to join in when they can. Point to each word as you read the poem. If you are working with older preschool students you might invite a few children at a time to come up and point to certain words in the poem. For example, can you find the word apple? What does apple start with? Have the group all say the word apple slowly. Children can also take the sentence strips out of the pocket chart, mix them up and put them back in the correct order.



Consider taking the children to an apple orchard and let them pick some fresh apples right off the trees. Many apple varieties are ripe for picking in September. If you are not able to plan a trip to an apple orchard then maybe you could visit a farmers' market or the produce section of the grocery store to see the different varieties



of apples. Buy some of each variety and bring them back to your childcare for taste testing. The children will be very surprised with the different size, color and flavor of each apple. For example the Fuji apples are sweet and the Granny Smith are more tart. Discuss with the children the differences in color between the bright yellow of the Golden Delicious apple to the deep red of the Rome apple and the striped pattern on the Gala apple. These activities help develop vocabulary, math and science skills. When planning your visit to the orchard or farmers' market, ask if they make their own apple juice or cider. The children will be fascinated with the apple press.

Enjoy your time outside and take in all the Fall season has to offer.

## County of Loudoun Family Services

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*Red, green and round*

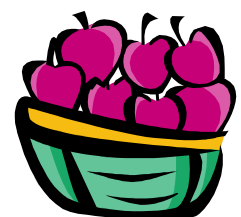
*Eating crisp, crunchy apples*

*They are delicious*



## Inside this issue:

Book Corner	2
Singing & Finger Plays	3
Apple Snacks	3
Apple Activities	4



## Book Corner



### Ten Red Apples

*By Pat Hutchins*

The farmer has 10 apples on his tree, until the animals start helping themselves. Will there be enough apples to go around? Help count!

### Johnny Appleseed

*By Rosemary & Steven Vincent Benet*

This is a very simple version of the poem about Johnny Appleseed. The book follows Johnny's journey as he plants the seeds and cares for the apple trees.



### How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World

*By Marjorie Priceman*

Travel around the world and gather the ingredients used to make an apple pie.

### Dappled Apples

*By Jan Carr*

This is a unique story illustrated with paper collage art. The book covers different events of the fall season—leaves changing, picking apples and Halloween.

### The Apple Pie Tree

*By Zoe Hall*

Two young sisters watch as their apple tree changes from bare in winter to bursting with pink blossoms in spring. When autumn comes the green apples have grown big enough for picking and making a pie!



### Apple Fractions

*By Jerry Pallotta*

In this enjoyable book a variety of different apples are used to teach children all about fractions. Playful elves demonstrate how to divide apples in halves, thirds, fourths and more. Readers will also learn about the different varieties of apples.

### Apple Farmer Annie

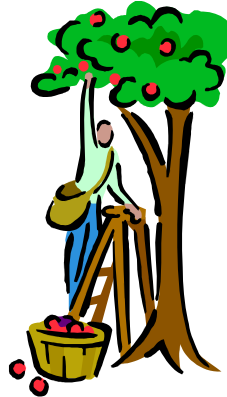
*By Monica Wellington*

This is a colorful story about Annie and her apple farm. Tag along with her as she picks apples, bakes with them, and sells her goods at the market.

### Apple Picking Time

*By Michele B. Slawson*

The rich illustrations on every page help children understand one of America's traditions and the harvesting necessities at apple picking time. The entire community participates in this event, which can last several weeks. The children have their own picking goals and take pride in their contributions. The author based this story on her own experiences growing up in Washington state.



### Big Red Apple

*By Tony Johnston*

When a strong wind blows "with a big, loud whisper" it causes a bright red apple to fall from its tree and onto the ground. What follows is a simple, gentle story about the life cycle of an apple, perfectly captured in beautiful patchwork illustrations.

### Apples and Pumpkins

*By Anne Rockwell*

A little girl visits a farm and picks the reddest apples from the trees and finds the best pumpkin in the patch in this classic full color book.



### Apples, Apples, Apples

*By Nancy Elizabeth Wallace*

Join the Bunny family on an apple-picking trip to the Long Hill Orchard. The story incorporates fiction with informational text to teach children all about apples. Included in the book is an applesauce recipe and several apple related activities. The perfect fall book for any classroom planning a trip to the orchard or farmer's market.

### The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree

*By Gail Gibbons*

In a fun book that teaches about the changing seasons, Arnold enjoys the pleasures of his apple tree. During the spring the tree produces buds and beautiful blossoms, in the summer the tree's lush branches provide shade and shelter, in the fall the tree produces tasty apples and in the winter the bare branches hold strings of popcorn and berries for the birds.

### Rain Makes Applesauce

*By Dr. Mary Berry*

This book has intricate pictures, each with an artfully printed silly line ending with the phrase, "and rain makes applesauce." The text points out the silly talk but concludes, without explanation, that rain does make applesauce.



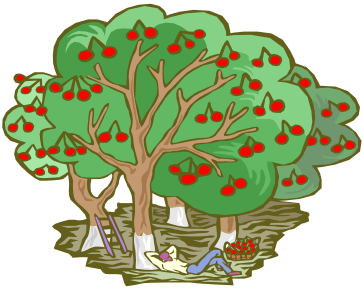
## Let's Do Some Singing & Finger Plays

### Falling Apples

(Sing to London Bridge is Falling Down)  
 See the apples falling down, falling down, falling down  
 See the apples falling down  
 Down to the ground  
 Pick the apples and throw them up  
 throw them up, throw them up  
 Pick the apples and throw them up to the sky

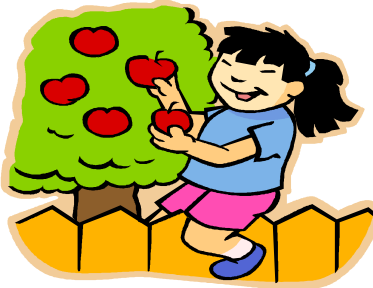
### The Apple Tree

(Sing to the tune of Rock-a-bye-Baby)  
 Here is a tree with leaves so green.  
 (Forearms together, elbows to wrists, hands spread)  
 Here are the apples that hang between  
 (Clench fists for apples)  
 When the wind blows the apples will fall  
 (Wave arms)  
 Here is a basket to gather them all  
 (Make a basket with both hands and fingers interlocked)



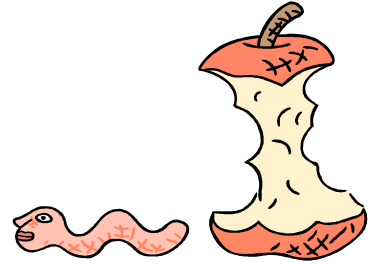
### Found an Apple

(Sing to the tune Clementine)  
 Found an apple, found an apple,  
 Found an apple big and round.  
 It was red and oh, so juicy  
 When I found it on the ground.  
 Found an apple, found an apple,  
 Found it growing on a tree.  
 Now I'll pick it and I'll share it,  
 Half for you and half for me.



### Apples

(Sing to Twinkle Twinkle)  
 Apple, apple tree so tall, I can hardly wait 'til Fall!  
 When your apples I can pick, fill my basket, eat them quick.  
 Apple, apple tree so tall, I can hardly wait till Fall!  
 Apple, apple tree so fair, what do I see growing there?  
 Red and round and plump and sweet,  
 soon they will be good to eat.  
 Apple, apple tree so fair, what do I see growing there?



### Apple Surprise

Way up high in the apple tree  
 A little brown worm smiled at me  
 I winked my eye and what do you suppose  
 A shiny red apple dropped on my nose!

### Climbing up the Apple Tree

Climbing up the apple tree  
 (climb in place)  
 Swinging on a limb  
 (pretend to swing arms above head)  
 If I hear a robin, I may  
 (cup hand over ear)  
 Sing along with him! (whistle)  
 And Robin, if you go away, (wave)  
 Here's what I think I'll do  
 (point with one finger)  
 I'll wish a pair of sparrow wings  
 (flap arms)  
 And I'll fly away with you  
 (pretend to fly)



## Snacks



### Apple Pizza

1 can of 8 -10 refrigerated biscuits  
 Large jar of cinnamon applesauce  
 Shredded sharp cheese  
 Preheat the oven to 350°. On an ungreased cookie sheet, place biscuits and slightly flatten. Place a tablespoon of cinnamon applesauce on each biscuit and sprinkle with cheese.  
 Bake at 350° for 15-20 minutes.  
 Let cool and serve.

### Easy Applesauce

6 Tart Apples  
 1 1/4 cups of water  
 3-4 tablespoons sugar  
 Cinnamon  
 Wash, peel, core and slice the apples.  
 Your child can put them into a pan and add water. Cover and simmer until the apples are tender, about 20-30 minutes. Add sugar and cinnamon to taste. Makes 12 small servings.

### Apple Sandwich

1 apple  
 Peanut butter, cream cheese or cheddar cheese spread  
 Slice apple across, making 6-8 slices  
 Using a dull knife let children spread peanut butter or cheese on one slice of apple then top with a second slice of apple to make a sandwich



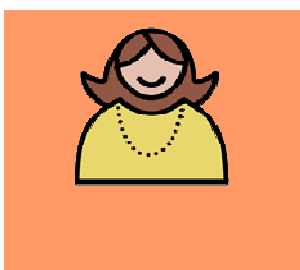


### Apple Necklaces

Apple Jacks cereal  
Apple Cinnamon cereal  
Yarn

Tape

Cut yarn into 25" lengths. Wrap a small piece of tape around each end of the yarn to form a "needle." Have the children decide on a pattern and thread the cereal onto the yarn until the pattern is complete. Tie the yarn to make a necklace.



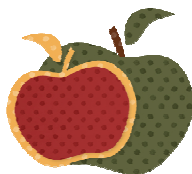
## Apple Activities

### Shiny Apple Sun Catchers

Draw a large apple onto wax paper with a black marker and have the children cut them out. Let the children use red, green and yellow colored glue to paint the inside of their apple. While still wet use colored yarn to outline the apple shape. Once dry peel the glue apple away from the wax paper and hang!

### Apple Play Dough

Add cinnamon spice to red, green and yellow play dough. Give the children apple cookie cutters to form their apples and pipe cleaners for the worms.



### Counting Apples

Make three trees and several apples out of felt. Put a different number under each tree. Have the children put a corresponding number of apples on each tree.

### Pass the Apple

Play this game just like *Hot Potato*. The children sit in a circle and pass an apple to each other until the music stops. Whichever child is holding the apple when the music stops is sent to the apple orchard (the center of the circle).

### How Many Apples Am I ?

Let your children lay down on the ground and measure how many apples tall they are. The results can be charted.

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## Primary Press

## Childcare Workshops for Providers

To register for these workshops,  
Please visit:

[www.loudoun.gov/childcareworkshop](http://www.loudoun.gov/childcareworkshop)

Workshop Registration opens on the  
15th of each month for the  
Following month.

*If the 15th is on a weekend or holiday,  
then registration opens on the next business day.*